United Nations S/PV.4103

Security Council

Fifty-fifth Year

Provisional

4103rd Meeting

Thursday, 17 February 2000, 11 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Listre	(Argentina)
Members:	Bangladesh	Mr. Chowdhury
	Canada	Mr. Fowler
	China	Mr. Shen Guofang
	France	Mr. Teixeira da Silva
	Jamaica	Miss Durrant
	Malaysia	Mr. Hasmy
	Mali	Mr. Maiga
	Namibia	Mr. Andjaba
	Netherlands	Mr. Scheffers
	Russian Federation	Mr. Gatilov
	Tunisia	Mr. Ben Youssef
	Ukraine	Mr. Yel'chenko
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Jeremy Greenstock
	United States of America	Mr. Cunningham

Agenda

Admission of new Members

Report of the Committee on the Admission of New Members concerning the application of Tuvalu for admission to membership in the United Nations (S/2000/70)

00-30236 (E)

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The meeting was called to order at 11.20 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Admission of new Members

Report of the Committee on the Admission of New Members concerning the application of Tuvalu for admission to membership in the United Nations (S/2000/70)

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): Under the item on its agenda, the Security Council will now begin its consideration of the report of the Committee on the Admission of New Members concerning the application of Tuvalu for admission to membership in the United Nations, which appears in document S/2000/70.

In paragraph 3 of the report, the Committee recommends to the Council that it should have recourse to the provision of the last paragraph of rule 60 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure in order to present its recommendation to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Council wishes to waive the time limits set forth in the penultimate paragraph of rule 60.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

In paragraph 4 of the report, the Committee recommends to the Security Council the adoption of a draft resolution on the application of Tuvalu for admission to membership in the United Nations.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution contained in paragraph 4 of the report of the Committee on the Admission of New Members (S/2000/70). Unless I hear any objection, I shall put the draft resolution to the vote.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

I shall first give the floor to those members of the Council who wish to make statements before the voting.

Mr. Shen Guofang (China) (*spoke in Chinese*): The Chinese delegation attaches great importance to Tuvalu's desire to join the United Nations and has seriously considered its application. The Chinese delegation believes that, as a State Member of the United Nations, a country should truly fulfil the obligations contained in the Charter of the United Nations and strictly abide by the resolutions of the General Assembly. This is also a very important basis on which to judge whether an applicant country has met the standards for being a Member of the United Nations.

In considering the question of Tuvalu's joining the United Nations, we believe that the most important thing is the upholding of the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and the implementation of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI).

Proceeding from this principled position, the Chinese delegation cannot support the Security Council's recommendation to the General Assembly that Tuvalu should be accepted as a new Member State.

At the same time, bearing in mind the long-term interests of the peoples of China and Tuvalu, and also taking into consideration the requests of various parties, including the countries of the South Pacific, we will not block this recommendation. It is our hope that, after joining the United Nations, Tuvalu will strictly abide by the Charter of the United Nations and implement General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI).

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): I shall now put to the vote the draft resolution contained in paragraph 4 of the report of the Committee on the Admission of New Members (S/2000/70).

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:
Argentina, Bangladesh, Canada, France, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mali, Namibia, Netherlands, Russian Federation, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Against:
None

Abstaining:
China

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): The result of the voting is as follows: 14 votes in favour, none against and one abstention.

The draft resolution contained in paragraph 4 of the report of the Committee on the Admission of New Members, document S/2000/70, has been adopted as resolution 1290 (2000).

I shall immediately convey the decision of the Security Council recommending the admission of Tuvalu to membership in the United Nations to the Secretary-General for transmittal to the General Assembly, in accordance with rule 60 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

I shall now make a statement, in my capacity as President of the Security Council, on behalf of the members of the Council.

> "The Security Council has decided to recommend to the General Assembly that Tuvalu be admitted as a Member of the United Nations. On behalf of the members of the Council, I wish to extend my congratulations to Tuvalu on this historic occasion.
>
> "The Council notes with great satisfaction Tuvalu's solemn commitment to uphold the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to fulfil all the obligations contained therein.
>
> "We look forward to the day in the near future when Tuvalu will join us as a Member of the United Nations and to working closely with its representatives."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/PRST/2000/6.

The Council has thus concluded its consideration of the matter before it.

The meeting rose at 11.30 a.m.